

## PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

## The Application of

ERIC A. REINERS et al.

Application No. 09/836,751

Filed: April 17, 2001

For: INDEPENDENT METERING VALVE  
ASSEMBLY FOR MULTIPLE  
HYDRAULIC LOAD FUNCTIONS

Attorney Docket No. 00-143

[illegible]

) Art Unit: 3745

) Examiner: FRANK D. LOPEZ

) Paper No.: 8

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Peoria, Illinois 61629-6490

July 28, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Box RCE  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Official Final Action dated February 28, 2003, having a period for response to expire on May 28, 2003, which period has been extended by the enclosed Petition for Extension of Time to expire on July 28, 2003, the Applicants have submitted a request for continued examination (RCE), specifically provided for under 37 CFR 1.114.

Accordingly, prior to the examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

## INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested. Claims 1, 2, 4-7 and 21-28 are pending in this application.

This paper includes: IN THE CLAIMS; and REMARKS.